

5/12
B,
1. (Twice Amended) A method of providing blood flow directly from a heart chamber to a coronary vessel, comprising:

providing a substantially straight stent that includes a configuration having sufficient radial strength to resist deformation from contractile forces experienced during a cardiac cycle and sufficient flexibility in a compressed state and a deployed state to permit passage to a myocardial site and remain patent when implanted in the site, wherein the stent includes a flared end and a covering on an inner surface portion and an outer surface portion of the stent;

delivering the stent in the compressed state into a passage at the myocardial site; and

expanding the stent to deploy the stent in the passage at the myocardial site such that the flared end seats around an end of the passage.

B2
4. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the covering covers substantially all of an inner surface and an outer surface of the stent.

5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the stent includes a coating over the covering on the inner surface portion of the stent.

B3
8. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the stent includes a covering having expandable polytetrafluoroethylene that covers substantially all of an inner surface and an outer surface of the stent and the stent includes a heparin-based coating over the covering on the inner surface of the stent.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

B4

10. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the flared end is placed in the passage to face the coronary vessel.

B5

16. (Twice Amended) A method of providing blood flow directly from a left ventricle to a coronary artery, comprising:

providing a substantially straight stent that includes a configuration having sufficient radial strength to resist deformation from contractile forces experienced during a cardiac cycle and sufficient flexibility in a compressed state and a deployed state to permit passage to a myocardial site distal to a coronary blockage and remain patent when implanted in the site, wherein the stent includes a flared end and a covering having expandable polytetrafluoroethylene that covers substantially all of an inside surface and an outside surface of the stent, and the stent includes an antithrombogenic coating over the covering on the inside surface of the stent;

delivering the stent percutaneously in the compressed state into a passage at the myocardial site such that the flared end seats around an end of the passage; and

expanding the stent to deploy the stent in the passage.

17. (Twice Amended) A method of providing blood flow directly from a heart chamber to a coronary vessel, comprising:

providing a substantially straight stent that includes a flared end and has a configuration having sufficient radial strength to resist deformation from contractile forces experienced during a cardiac cycle and sufficient flexibility in a compressed state

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

ch
PS
and a deployed state to permit passage to a myocardial site and remain patent when implanted in the site;

applying a covering to the stent;

applying a coating over the covering on an inside surface of the stent; and

delivering the stent into a passage at the myocardial site such that the flared end seats around an end of the passage.

B6
24. (Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the flared end is placed in the passage to face the coronary vessel.

29. (Twice Amended) A conduit for providing blood flow directly from a heart chamber to a coronary vessel, comprising:

B7
a substantially straight stent that includes a flared end and a configuration having sufficient radial strength to resist deformation from contractile forces experienced during a cardiac cycle and sufficient flexibility in a compressed state and a deployed state to permit passage to a myocardial site and remain patent when implanted in the site, and

a covering on an inner surface portion and outer surface portion of the stent, wherein the flared end is configured to seat around an end of a passage at the myocardial site.

31. (Amended) The conduit of claim 29, wherein the covering covers substantially all of an inner surface and an outer surface of the stent.

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOY
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com